

REMARKS

Claims 61 to 74 are pending in the application, Claim 64 being the independent claim. Claims 61, 63 to 65 and 68 to 74 are amended. Claim 60 is being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. The Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments made herein, together with reconsideration and reexamination of the present Application.

I. Allowable Subject Matter Indicated By The Office Action

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the confirmation made by the Examiner that Claims 64, 65 and 67 recite allowable subject matter. The Examiner has further confirmed that these claims would be in condition for allowance if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

While the Applicant disputes the need for any amendment in light of the art of record, the Applicant amends Claim 64 to place it in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base Claim 60. In addition, the Applicant amends Claims 61, 63 and 68 to 74 to depend, directly or through intervening dependent claims, from Claim 64. The amendments to these claims are being made solely to advance prosecution, so as to allow the Applicant to obtain some incremental scope of protection while the broader claims to which the Applicant believes it is entitled are pursued in a subsequent application.

Based on the Examiner's statements and confirmations, Claim 64 should be in condition for allowance, and Claims 61 to 63 and 65 to 74, each of which depend either directly or indirectly from Claim 64, should also be in condition for allowance.

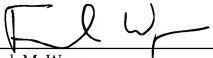
II. Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, the Applicant submits that Claims 61 to 74 are in condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

THE HECKER LAW GROUP, PLC

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By: 
Frank M. Weyer
Reg. No. 33,050

THE HECKER LAW GROUP, PLC
1925 Century Park East
Suite 2300
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 286-0377